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In chapter 5 of *Foundations of American Education*, I read about many educational philosophies that are implemented in the classroom by both teachers and students. Of these six educational philosophies discussed in the chapter the student-based philosophies, humanism, constructivism, and progressivism really stuck out to me. These three philosophies stuck out to me the most because I felt that they better matched my beliefs of education than the others.

In the book Humanism is defined as an educational philosophy that expresses the belief that humans are innately good. In humanism tis belief is expressed through the notion that humans are born free but become enslaved by institutions. I agree with this philosophy in the sense that we are shaped by that world around us. When we are born, we know nothing about the world. We cannot speak, walk, or even see clearly. As we grow older, our parents and teachers begin to shape our own beliefs through teachings and lessons. However schools have set curriculums they must teach from. These set curriculums only touch upon the basics and certain sides of the material and subjects. By following these strict curriculums students become enslaved by institutions. Students who all are taught the same things will begin to conform. Thinking differently becomes less and less apparent and these thoughts are automatically classified being wrong because of it.

Other philosophies such as Constructivism (an educational philosophy that emphasizes hands-on, activity-based teaching and learning) and Progressivism (an educational philosophy that emphasizes that ideas should be tested by experimentation and that learning is rooted in questions developed by the learner) promote students to develop their own frames of thought. The Constructivism method helps students develop independence and problem solving skills by teaching them how to find answers on their own, with decreasing guidance. Progressivism method helps students learn to formulate an accurate response to questions presented to them. This method also teaches students to learn from mistakes and understand that there is not only one answer to every question.